January 21, 2020 HRC Meeting 9am

Attendance:

Rabbi Jay Sherwood Kim Sannes Kelley Pomis Delia Busby Catherine Duarte

Introductions and Discussion:

Members

Guest: Angelic Bully interested in becoming a member establishing herself and getting involved in the community retired
African historical community volunteer
Volunteer with All Breed rescue and Training (ABRT)

Guest Speaker: Alexander Wolbolt, PhD

Involved with Inside Out youth services

around since 1990

worked with El Paso health and the environment to address LGBTQ plus youth experiencing homelessness and health problems

background socio-anthropologist and sexual violence and how to move forward using more public health solutions to this problem

prevention programs in the community-youth substance/youth suicide and sexual violence, which he is helping youth connect with traditions to stop shame

involved in the sex education bill discussion-some schools are opting out of teaching this sex education helps youth early on...

United church of Christ-'Our whole Lives' program have this to educate children/people: model suicide prevention for Trans-gender binary approach--pronouns/gender identity by age of 3; for every informed and positive experience they have, there is a 56% less suicide prevention putting together a clergy group that support these approaches

LBGQT plus youth in Colorado Springs -clergy advisory council or something on those lines event- dinner open table conversation UCCS religious traditions to incorporate LGBQT youth

Mrs. Pomis: bridge the gap between services and people discussion

Alexander Wolbolt: young people lives are too important to not use evidence...makes sure we are keeping young **people alive**

identities/undocumented

racial injustice and equity work

discriminatory policies in the community increases poor mental health outcomes and suicide.

- --restrooms where they will not be harassed in school
- -dress codes/hairstyles policies are adding up for mental well-being...need to keep in mind that they impact safety/well-being

**don't have access to legal identification-Colorado ID project based out of Denver /need it here-homeless can't get IDs so they can't use services sometimes

Rabbi Jay Sherwood:

Voter ID in exchange to support that everybody gets an ID

Mrs. Busby: funding taken from palmer HS had the first for Gay Straight Alliance...amendment 2 in Colorado constitution in 1992 granted all companies ability to fire someone for being gay.

Amendment 2 was beaten back

comprehensive sex education Bill HB19-1032 passed last summer 2019 - legislative has moved into a school board issue

Colorado does not have a comprehensive Health requirement to graduate

Mr. Wolbolt is writing a letter to all school districts to include this health requirement...with data and factual

Can HRC sign on? with a letter of support?

Mrs. Pompis: you need to dig into school district policy vs. School board.

Mrs. Busby: Depression Bipolar --on a board and did work on suicide prevention...but was frustrated with promoting their success

-books-racial history

Mrs. Sannes spoke about attending the Educating Children of Color conference

Rabbi Jay Sherwood was with teens from synagogue 'Taken to Repair the World' conference went to MLK memorial ...what is it about? response: day to celebrate African Americans in America really: represents the ultimate for social justice issues

teens got to pick subjects in congress --controversial...full funding of the idea act 1973 to increase funding for kids with disability

Lobbying--U.S. is paying 16% SUPPOSE TO BE 40% OTHER WAS for mental health benefits Senator Bennett and Senator Gardner--well received -lots of things from Colorado/seemed interested in the mental health bill

Really showed interest in sponsoring mental health bill

visited House Representative Lamborn's office

a group from Texas visited Senator Cruz...disagreed but stated they did a good job with presentation - although disagreed still a positive experience

Kid's immigration story was heard in hallway and now being represented by atty. to help family. This is an example of how change can happen by just getting stories and knowledge to the right people

Bakhita house update: approved to building permit to house 5 women...done by June and will interview social workers by end of summer only one in Colorado

Mrs. Pomis: next month template/legislative updates Website Commissioner list getting updated

Jaqueline from city/**Ms. Duarte** will forward dates to interview for new commissioners for first half of February and will forward to **Rabbi Jay Sherwood**

Ms. Duarte has public policy support letter template and **Rabbi Jay Sherwood** will send out to members prior to next meeting

Process of using letter template: provide background of issue provide background with the agenda next month finalize process for using the template

Next HRC meeting: **Tuesday February 17, 2020** 9am 10:30 Adjourn